

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08

EA-07 FRB-03 INR-07 IO-13 NEA-10 NSAE-00 OPIC-03

SP-02 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 AGRE-00 OMB-01

NSC-05 SS-15 STR-04 DODE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 EURE-00 OES-06 XMB-02 OIC-02 /113 W

-----162042Z 068299 /45

O 162022Z FEB 77

FM USMISSION OECD PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASH DC IMMEDIATE 5347

C O N F I D E N T I A L OECD PARIS 04804

E FOR COOPER; EUR FOR HARTMAN AND ALBRECHT; EB FOR P
KATZ AND BOEKER

PASS TREASURY FOR SOLOMON AND BERGSTEN; CEA FOR SCHULTZE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OECD, ECON

SUBJECT: FORTHCOMING WP-3 EPC AND XCSS MEETINGS:

AN OPENING DISCUSSION OF INTERRELATED ISSUES

REFS: (A) OECD PARIS 981, (B) OECD PARIS 2175,

(C) OECD PARIS 2961

1. WITH THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 28 NOW LESS THAN TWO
WEEKS AWAY, SENIOR U.S. FOREIGN ECONOMIC POLICY OFFICI-
ALS WILL SOON BE PREPARING FOR UP-COMING WP-3, EPC AND
XCSS MEETINGS. WE WILL BE SENDING SEPARATE TELEGRAMS
HIGHLIGHTING THE MAIN ISSUES FOR EACH OF THESE MEETINGS.
THE PURPOSE OF THIS MESSAGE IS TO FLAG TO WASHINGTON
THE NEED TO SEE THE POLICY ISSUES TO COME UP IN EACH OF
THE THREE MEETINGS IN THEIR INTERRELATIONSHIP. THE
SECRETARIAT PAPERS CLEARLY REFLECT VAN LENNEP'S INTE-
GRATED APPROACH, OUTLINED DURING THE MONDALE VISIT. HE
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SEES THESE THREE MEETINGS AS AN OPENING DISCUSSION OF
INTERRELATED ISSUES.

2. THE DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL THAT DURING THE PREPARA-
TIONS FOR THE VICE PRESIDENT'S VISIT WE SUBMITTED A
CABLE (REF A) ON VARIOUS POLICY ELEMENTS REQUIRING EARLY
ATTENTION WITHIN THE OECD. WE ALSO OUTLINED A PROPOSAL

(REF B) FOR A CONCEPTUALLY INTEGRATED APPROACH TO STRENGTHENING INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION. IN ADDITION WE PROVIDED A CONSOLIDATED PAPER ON THE SAME SUBJECT TO SENIOR OFFICIALS WHO ACCOMPANIED THE VICE PRESIDENT TO PARIS.

3. IN HIS MEETING WITH THE VICE PRESIDENT THE SECRETARY-GENERAL LAID OUT HIS THINKING ALONG LINES SIMILAR TO THE OVERALL APPROACH WE HAD EARLIER OUTLINED (SEE REF C) AND HE CONTINUED HIS DISCUSSIONS ON THE SAME THEME DURING THE WORKING DINNER THAT FOLLOWED.

4. THE PAPERS WHICH WE ARE TRANSMITTING TO YOU ARE FURTHER ELABORATION OF THESE THEMES AND FOCUS SHARPLY ON THE KEY POLICY ISSUES. OBVIOUSLY NEITHER THE NEW ADMINISTRATION STILL IN ITS EARLY DAYS, NOR ANY OTHER GOVERNMENT FOR THAT MATTER, CAN BE EXPECTED TO HAVE DEFINITIVE VIEWS ON THE MEATY AGENDA FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 28. HOWEVER, THE DISCUSSION DURING THAT WEEK SHOULD AT LEAST GIVE A CLEAR DIRECTION AS TO THE FUTURE WORK TO BE UNDERTAKEN ON VARIOUS ELEMENTS OF THE APPROACH. OTHERS WILL LOOK FOR SIGNALS FROM THE U.S. DELEGATION AS THE FIRST INDICATION FROM THE NEW ADMINISTRATION AS TO WHERE IT WANTS TO GO IN THE OECD. YOUR PREPARATIONS FOR THESE DISCUSSIONS SHOULD THEREFORE BEAR IN MIND THE IMPLICATIONS FOR THE DIRECTION OF THE ON-GOING PROCESS LEADING UP TO THE OECD MINISTERIAL MEETING AND THE RELEVANCE OF THE APPROACH BEING DEVELOPED IN OECD FOR THE OBJECTIVES OF THE SUMMIT.
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5. WE ARE SENDING SEPTELS ON A PROPOSED VAN LENNEP VISIT TO WASHINGTON IN MARCH WHICH HE SEES AS PART OF THE FOLLOW-UP PROCESS, AND ON THE DATES OF THE OECD MINISTERIAL MEETING.
KATZ

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, MEETINGS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977OECDP04804
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770055-1090
Format: TEL
From: OECD PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770236/aaaabfqh.tel
Line Count: 103
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 46eaa1c5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 OECD PARIS 981, 77 OECD PARIS 2175, 77 OECD PARIS 2961
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3306543
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FORTHCOMING WP-3 EPC AND XCSS MEETINGS: AN OPENING DISCUSSION OF INTERRELATED ISSUES
TAGS: ECON, OVIP, US, OECD
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/46eaa1c5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009